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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a
patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations
- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

Published:

- with international search report
- with amended claims

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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(54) Title: DEVICE FOR IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF SOLAR PANELS

(57) Abstract: The Solar Device uses magnified glass or perspex to enhance the productivity of any solar panelling. It can be set on a frame above the panel or tile. It can also be built into the panel itself It would allow solar panels / tiles or devices to be more energy efficient.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat'l Application No
PCT/GB2005/002860

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G02B3/00 F24J2/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G02B F24J

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 96/11365 A (PEREA, MICHEL; IANNELLO, DANIEL) 18 Apr 11 1996 (1996-04-18)	1,7
Y	the whole document	2-6
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 007, no. 215 (M-244), 22 September 1983 (1983-09-22) & JP 58 108359 A (MATSUSHITA DENKI SANGYO KK), 28 June 1983 (1983-06-28)	1,7
Y	abstract	2-6
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2003, no. 12, 5 December 2003 (2003-12-05) & JP 2003 324210 A (KARASAWA YOSHITAKA), 14 November 2003 (2003-11-14)	2-4
	abstract	
	—/—	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"Z" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 October 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern: # Application No
PCT/GB2005/002860

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 367 174 A (BAZILE ET AL) 22 November 1994 (1994-11-22) column 2, line 40 - column 3, line 33	5
Y	DE 27 39 201 A1 (NEUMANN, SIEGMAR R) 8 March 1979 (1979-03-08) the whole document	6
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1995, no. 02, 31 March 1995 (1995-03-31) & JP 06 315614 A (AGENCY OF IND SCIENCE & TECHNOL; others: 01), 15 November 1994 (1994-11-15) abstract	6

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In tional application No.
PCT/GB2005/002860

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 1-7 (all partially)
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 1-7 (all partially)

Present claim 1 is unclear, because the claim actually does not define any structural feature of the claimed device. In particular, the specified features of claim 1 are considered non-limiting, because the expressions "may be made of...", "can be magnified...", "can be set..." and "may be also built" leave a reader in doubt about the actual features of the device. Thus, it is impossible to determine, whether a given device actually falls under the scope of the claim.

Moreover, the expression "materials that can be magnified" is obscure and leaves a reader in doubt about the actual structural features of the claimed device. The expression is interpreted as meaning a material having a shape that provides a magnifying optical effect.

While the description vaguely mentions various applications and functional properties of the device, it fails to disclose by which structural features the described effects are actually obtained. Thus, the teaching of the present application does not enable a skilled person to carry out the invention. This view is supported by the fact that no concrete exemplary embodiment is disclosed.

Similar remarks apply to claims 2-7. Furthermore, it appears from the description that independent claims 2, 4-7 are actually meant to further specify the device of claim 1 and are therefore regarded as dependent claims. For the search, claims 2, 4-7 are interpreted in this sense.

In view of the vague and unclear definition of the device and the obscure description, it is impossible to carry out a full search for claims 1-7. The incomplete search is based on the following structural and functional features of the device of claim 1 which appear to be clear from the description:

Namely, the device is

- used to "power the solar device more efficiently"
- used in connection with solar panels
- made of glass or plastic material having a varying thickness.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/GB2005/002860

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9611365	A	18-04-1996	AU BE	3646695 A 1008780 A3
				02-05-1996 06-08-1996
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				30-07-1993
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				09-09-1980
JP 06315614	A	15-11-1994	NONE	